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AUG 8 1947

MEMORANDUM TO: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: ORE Status Report: July 1947

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF RECENTLY PROPOSED PLANS AND POLICIES

1. Interdepartmental Plans and Policies

a. Basic Intelligence Program. A full scale interdepartmental effort, under CIG coordination and direction, toward the development and execution of the National Intelligence Surveys is currently blocked pending JCS action on:

(1) Review and comment on IAB #1.

(2) Review and approval of the JIC proposal to transfer the functions and responsibilities of JISPB to CIG, and final approval of IAB #1 by the NIA.

The Chief, Naval Intelligence, has offered comments to the Director of Central Intelligence on the outline and format of the proposed NIS Program. These have been forwarded to the other IAB members for information and with the suggestion by the DCI that the IAB agencies undertake immediately a study of the proposed NIS outline so that the ad hoc committee appointed to develop an NIS outline may have before it the considered opinion of the IAB agencies at its initial meeting.

b. Scientific Intelligence Program. On 9 July 1947, representatives of CIG, the IAB agencies and JRDB convened to discuss the subject of National Scientific Intelligence Requirements. Essential agreement was reached on the following points:

(1) That coordination of effort in the field was required and would be supported.

(2) That an inter-change between agencies of monthly reports summarizing intelligence research projects currently in process, and projected, by CIG and each IAB agency would facilitate coordination of effort and programming of intelligence research activities, scientific and otherwise, by all agencies.

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Tentative National Scientific Intelligence Requirements have been developed by ORE in collaboration with JRDB based upon consideration of those already established independently by Air, Army and Navy intelligence agencies, and in augmentation thereof.

Based upon a 17 July meeting with JRDB representatives, ORE initiated a project with a 1 September deadline to develop the scientific and technological capabilities of USSR which influence the national defense economy of the United States as of 1949.

The establishment of an officially approved working relationship between the Nuclear Energy Group and the Atomic Energy Commission has not as yet materialized. The CIG proposed plan was submitted to AEC on 14 April 1947.

c. Joint Map and Photo Committee (JMPC). The JRDB Committee on Geographical Exploration has agreed to support JMPC by providing geographic and scientific consultants for a JMPC project to develop techniques for fuller exploitation of aerial photography as a source of geographic and terrain intelligence.

The JMPC ad hoc Committee on Gazetteers will be represented at the forthcoming London Mapping Conference by the CIG member of JMPC, when an effort will be made to obtain approval in principle for joint U. S.-British standardization of transliteration systems and joint participation in a program for the compilation of an International English Language Gazetteer, global in coverage and based upon mutually determined standards.

d. Board on Geographical Names (BGN). As a result of action by the Congress and the President, Public Law 242 was enacted establishing the BGN as an interdepartmental agency under the administration of the Secretary of the Interior, with full and sole authority to standardize orthography and nomenclature for foreign and domestic place names. This action abolishes the Board as previously constituted, and establishes a new board composed of representatives of designated governmental departments and agencies. The Secretary of the Interior is requesting each department and agency represented on the Advisory Committee of the former Board to nominate a candidate for duty as a member of the newly established Board.

The law further enjoins all governmental agencies to abide by the decisions of the BGN, to refer to it all unresolved name problems and to insure that all U. S. agencies utilize the official U. S. renderings of both foreign and domestic place names in their publications.

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